

1994

The Three Hundred and Fifteenth Report of the Curricular Affairs Committee: Proposal for a B.S. Degree in Marine Affairs

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
Kingston, Rhode Island
FACULTY SENATE
BILL


Adopted by the Faculty Senate

TO: President Robert L. Carothers

FROM: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

1. The attached BILL, titled The Three Hundred and Fifteenth Report of the Curricular Affairs Committee: Proposal for a B.S. Degree in Marine Affairs, is forwarded for your consideration.
2. The original and two copies for your use are included.
3. This BILL was adopted by vote of the Faculty Senate on April 14, 1994.
(date)
4. After considering this bill, will you please indicate your approval or disapproval. Return the original or forward it to the Board of Governors, completing the appropriate endorsement below.
5. In accordance with Section 10, paragraph 4 of the Senate's By-Laws, this bill will become effective May 5, 1994, three weeks after Senate approval, unless: (1) specific dates for implementation are written into the bill; (2) you return it disapproved; (3) you forward it to the Board of Governors for their approval; or (4) the University Faculty petitions for a referendum. If the bill is forwarded to the Board of Governors, it will not become effective until approved by the Board.

April 14, 1994
(date)


Barbara F. Luebke
Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

ENDORSEMENT

TO: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

FROM: President of the University

Returned.

- a. Approved ____.
- ✓ b. Approved subject to final approval by Board of Governors ✓.
- c. Disapproved ____.

4/19/94
(date)


President

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
Kingston, Rhode Island

FACULTY SENATE

March 28, 1994

Faculty Senate Curricular Affairs Committee
Three Hundred and Fifteenth Report

Proposal for a Bachelor of Science Degree in Marine Affairs

On December 13, 1993, the Faculty Senate Curricular Affairs Committee approved the proposal from the College of Arts and Sciences to establish a new Bachelor of Science Degree in Marine Affairs.

In accordance with the provisions of section 8.85.10 of the UNIVERSITY MANUAL, the Bachelor of Science Degree in Marine Affairs proposal was forwarded to the Office of the Vice President for Business and Finance on December 15, 1993 with the request that a budgetary impact statement be prepared. On March 28, 1994, the Faculty Senate Executive Committee reviewed the budgetary impact statement, dated March 14, 1994, prepared by J. Vernon Wyman, Assistant to the Vice President for Business and Finance. After their review, the Executive Committee agreed that the proposal for a new Bachelor of Science Degree in Marine Affairs does not require review and ranking by the New Program Review Committee because it meets the criteria for exemption set forth in section 8.85.24 of the UNIVERSITY MANUAL:

If programs do not require the allocation of funds for direct costs, or if the program can be entirely supported by reprogramming existing departmental funds, or if the amount of general revenue funds required per year does not exceed the current calendar year salary of an instructor, no review under 8.85.20 shall be required.

The Curricular Affairs Committee recommends that the Faculty Senate approve the proposal for a Bachelor of Science Degree in Marine Affairs as follows (The proposal is in the format required by the Board of Governors for Higher Education.)

PROPOSAL FOR A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN MARINE AFFAIRS

A. PROGRAM INFORMATION

1. **Name of Institution:** University of Rhode Island
2. **Department and College:**
Marine Affairs
College of Arts and Sciences
3. **Title of proposed program:** Marine Affairs
Degree to be conferred: Bachelor of Science
4. **Intended date of initiation:** Fall 1994

5. **Anticipated Date for First Degrees:** Spring 1996
6. **Intended Location of Program:** Kingston Campus of the University of Rhode Island
7. **Institutional review and approval process:**

APPROVEDDATE

Department of Marine Affairs

2/22/93Curriculum Committee of the College of Arts
and Sciences4/26/93

Faculty of the College of Arts & Sciences

9/14/93

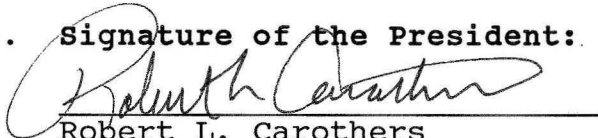
Faculty Senate Curricular Affairs Committee

12/13/93

Faculty Senate

4/14/94

President of the University

8. **Summary Description:** The proposed program places an increased emphasis on the development of scientific, writing and quantitative skills within the policy, legal and management frameworks of Marine Affairs. It is designed to better meet the needs of students seeking further study in the competitive climate of graduate programs, or professional entry level employment in the public or private sector.
9. **Resources Required:** The existing level of resource commitments to the Department of Marine Affairs.
10. **Signature of the President:**

Robert L. Carothers
11. **Persons to be contacted during the review:**

Dr. Blair M. Lord
Vice Provost for Academic Programs and Services
University of Rhode Island
Kingston, Rhode Island 02881
(401) 792-2447

Dr. Lawrence Juda, Chair
Department of Marine Affairs
University of Rhode Island
Kingston, Rhode Island 02881
(401) 792-2596

B. RATIONALE:

1. **Nature of the Program:** The primary objective of the proposed B.S. degree in Marine Affairs is to provide a broader range of academic options for students in the Marine Affairs program. This will provide for better preparation for those students who will pursue graduate studies in Marine Affairs, as well as for the majority of students seeking entry level employment in the public and private sectors. Professionally oriented students will have a better understanding of the role of scientific issues in coastal and marine policy and management.
2. **Needs Addressed:** The field of Marine Affairs was created here at the University of Rhode Island in 1969. Initially offered as a graduate program of studies, within the Department of Geography and Marine Affairs, a small undergraduate program in geography was changed to a marine affairs designation in the late 1980's. The current Bachelor of Arts degree provides a fine liberal arts preparation for students pursuing a non-technical program of studies, but does not provide the technical orientation necessary for those students seeking graduate studies in quality programs that require sound preparation in science, statistics and data analysis, and computer applications. Students entering a competitive entry-level professional marketplace are usually much more successful when their studies in policy, law and management are complemented by a scientific preparation. This allows students to better understand the physical environment in which they operate. The proposed degree will allow us to better meet the needs of our undergraduate students. An informal discussion at the end of the Fall 1992 semester by our Chair, Lawrence Juda, with our senior seminar students revealed a broad level of support by the students for a B.S. degree. With our undergraduate students in Marine Affairs now making up one of the largest client groups in the University of Rhode Island's University Year For Action (UYA internship program), the need for a B.S. option is indicated by prospective internship placement agencies noting the utility for our students to have a broader science background, in this case complementing their policy and management background. The existence of both a B.A. and B.S. degree would provide appropriate academic outlets for our students, where only one exists at present.
3. **Occupational Outlook:** The job market in marine and coastal management has traditionally been made up of students having a Master's level degree. Professional entry-level employment for an individual with a Bachelors degree is more likely at the local or state level public sector, or within the private sector. Although labor statistics are unavailable, the field of Marine Affairs is more limited in employment opportunities than other disciplines because of the extent of jobs available in coastal and marine management. This market reflects the spatial confines of

Marine Affairs. Students with a B.A. degree in Marine Affairs, to the best of our knowledge, have had limited success in the marine and coastal job market.

Understanding the desire of some of our undergraduate students to pursue a career in coastal and marine management, and realizing the cost of a college education and pressures brought to bear on students by their families; we believe a B.S. degree in Marine Affairs would accomplish two outcomes for our students. 1) Recognizing the prevailing job market is for graduate-level candidates, there is an emerging entry-level job market where a B.S. would allow our students to compete for these jobs. 2) Most importantly, students with a B.S. degree in Marine Affairs can apply their knowledge of legal and regulatory processes, policy and management frameworks, technical training in the sciences, writing, computer and statistical analytical skills in job environments that have an infrequent spatial exposure within the coastal and marine environment. This academic preparation would give our students wishing to pursue professional employment (before attending graduate school) a broader set of career options.

The past decade has seen students from around this country return to universities nationwide to pursue graduate education when regional job markets have been performing at less than optimal levels. In those cases where graduate school admittance is competitive, a B.S. degree would provide our students a better range of options in terms of the breadth of graduate program selection. Considering the times, we view the proposed B.S. program to be responsible and proactive to our students needs.

4. **Clientele:** It is difficult to forecast the number of students who would opt for a B.S. degree. We expect that a relative few of our students would enter the B.S. program in the beginning years (total enrollment of 10-15 students per year). The intended clientele would be those students from our existing B.A. program. Undoubtedly, some students from elsewhere in the university would be interested, as well as out-of-state students who would receive regional tuition arrangements.
5. **Program Size:** We do not feel that a formal size limitation is necessary at this time. As no new courses are required for this program, and because there are no additional facilities needed, our projection of 10 to 15 students per year seems more than manageable at this time. The Department will monitor closely where students are going for their Outside requirements, adjusting the program if need arises.

6. Requirements for the B.S. Degree:

- a. Minimum of 30 hours in Marine Affairs, with the following required MAF courses: MAF 100, 120, 410; MAF 220 or 221; five of the following: MAF 312, 315, 320, 330, 413, 456, 461, 465, 471, 472, 484, and 499.
- b. In addition to the above Marine Affairs requirements, students must also take BIO 102 OR ZOO 111 (3); OCG 123 or 401 (3); MTH 131 and 132 (6); STA 308 or 409 (3); WRT 333 (3).
- c. Students must select a total of five courses from the following, of which three must be at the 300 level or above. Courses may be selected from across disciplines, or within one.

ASP 281, 381 and 483.

CHM 103, 112, 124 and 227, 226.

STA 412, 413, 415 and 416.

FST 200, 315, 321, 325 and 415.

GEL 100, 103, 301, 320, 321, 370, 450 and 483.

NRS 305, 324, 401, 406, 423, 424 and 461.

REN 105, 336, 341, 410, 432, 435, 440, 456 and 460.

ZOO 141, 262, 355 and 455/457.

7. External Advisory or Steering Committee: None.**C. INSTITUTIONAL ROLE:**

1. **Consistency with University Role:** One of the long-term roles and missions of the University has been its involvement in the marine environment. As noted in a reprint from Sea Technology (December 1984, Larry L. Booda), "the University of Rhode Island (URI), located in a region brimming with venerable Ivy League schools, has had a disproportionately high impact in the field of marine science, technology and policy." In a state, and its university, both identified for their relationships with the oceans; it is a natural extension of the proposed program to continue and broaden the University's presence in the coastal and marine setting. Although students attend the University of Rhode Island for various reasons, many come to pursue their education in coastal and marine studies.
2. The proposed program is an extension of an existing program in Marine Affairs. The proposed B.S. degree will establish important linkages with other existing programs at the University, such as the departments noted above in Section B-6-c. Majors in the proposed program, if selecting all of their outside coursework in one discipline could effectively minor in that subject. Currently, few of our students in the B.A. program have minor programs of study. We believe this to be an important option in a students major program of study.

D. CONTENT:

1. Curriculum.

a) Names of Marine Affairs courses and catalog numbers:

MAF 100 Human Use and Control of the Marine Environment
MAF 120 Maritime New England
MAF 220 Introduction to Marine and Coastal Law
MAF 221 Introductory Cartography
MAF 312 The Politics of the Ocean
MAF 315 Marine Pollution Policy
MAF 320 Maritime Transportation and Ports
MAF 330 World Fishing
MAF 410 Problems in Marine Affairs
MAF 413 Peoples of the Sea
MAF 456 Polar Resources and Policy
MAF 461 Coastal Zone Uses
MAF 465 GIS Applications in Coastal and Marine Management
MAF 471 Island Systems
MAF 472 Marine Recreation Management
MAF 482 Quantitative Methods in Geography and Marine Affairs
MAF 484 Environmental Analysis and Policy in Coastal Management
MAF 490 Internship in Marine Affairs
MAF 491 Special Problems
MAF 492 Special Problems
MAF 499 Directed Study in Marine Affairs

b) New Courses: None.

c) Required Courses in Area of Specialization:

MAF 100 Human Use and Control of the Marine Environment
MAF 120 Maritime New England
MAF 410 Problems in Marine Affairs

d) Options available in Specialization: None.

e) Course Distribution Requirements: None.

f) Number of Free Electives: 33 credits of free electives.

g) Number of Credits Required for Graduation: 126 credits are required for graduation.

2. Sample Curriculum.

Freshman

Fall: MAF 100 (3), OCG 123 (3), ZOO 111 (3) and general education (6).

Spring: MAF 120 (3), MTH 131 (3) and general education (9).

Sophomore

Fall: MAF 320 (3), WRT 333 (3), STA 308 (3), MTH 132 (3) and general education (3).

Spring: MAF 220 (3), MAF 315 (3), ASP 281 (3), general education (3), and free electives (3).

Junior

Fall: MAF 413 (3), STA 412 (3), ZOO 262 (3), and free electives (9).

Spring: MAF 461 (3) MAF 465 (3), ASP 381 (3), general education (3), and free electives (6).

Senior

Fall: MAF 484 (3), REN 440 (3), ZOO 455 (3), and free electives (6).

Spring: MAF 410 (3), MAF 490 (6) and free electives (6).

This sample includes all required courses and prerequisites. Some required courses also satisfy general education requirements (MTH 131, WRT 333, ZOO 111). In the scenario above, the student must also complete 24 hours of general education requirements (including 6 in a Foreign Language or Culture Cluster), and 33 hours of free electives.

3. **Certification and Licensing Requirements:** None.

E. INTERINSTITUTIONAL CONSIDERATIONS:

1. **List Similar Programs offered in the State and region:**
None.
2. **Comparison of Objectives:** N/A.
3. **Necessary Cooperative Arrangements with other Institutions:**
None.
4. **Transfer Arrangements:** Transfers from other Rhode Island institutions will be handled as presently arranged. Enrollment limits will be maintained if necessary.
5. **Projected Impact on other Rhode Island Postsecondary Institutions:** None.
6. **External Affiliations:** None.
7. **New England Board of Higher Education Agreement:** As no other similar programs exist in New England, and because the B.A. Program already participates in this regional program, the B.S. degree should also be available to regional students.

F. RESOURCES:

1. Administration:

- a) **Structural Impacts:** The program will be administered by the department chair as part of his/her duties. No adverse impact is anticipated.
- b) **Additional Administrative Time:** Minimal.
- c) **Additional Costs:** None.

2. Faculty:

- a) **Current Faculty:** There will be no specific faculty assigned to this program.
- b) **Additional Faculty:** No additional faculty are required.
- c) **Support Personnel:** None are required.
- d) **Additional Costs:** None.

3. Learning Resources:

- a) **Current Capability:** The university's current facilities are adequate to support this program.
- b) **Additional Resources and Costs:** None.

4. Facilities and Equipment: No new facilities or equipment are required.

5. Operating Expenses: No additional budget demands.

6. Funds for Scholarships: None.

7. Cost Summary and Revenue Estimates: N/A.

G. EVALUATION:

1. Quality of Resources: The University has excellent computer facilities, an adequate research library and an excellent faculty in all program aspects.

2. Accreditation: N/A.

3. Criteria for Evaluation Include: Student enrollment statistics, student feedback, graduate school enrollment statistics and professional achievement of B.S. Program graduates.